

Lucid receives Russian Order of Friendship Medal

Astronaut Shannon Lucid received the Order of Friendship medal from Russian President Boris Yeltsin during a recent ceremony at the Kremlin honoring Russian cosmonauts and international astronauts who have flown on the Russian Mir Space Station in 1996.

The Order of Friendship medal is one of the highest Russian civilian awards and the highest award that can be presented to a non-citizen.

Lucid spent a U.S. record of 188 days in space last year. She was launched to Mir on the Space Shuttle *Atlantis*' STS-76 mission on March 22, 1996, and returned to Earth on *Atlantis*' STS-79 mission Sept. 26, 1996.

"I think the most important thing for success on a long-duration space flight.... it's not the hardware, it's not your science experiments, it's the people you fly with," Lucid said after returning to Earth. "And if the people are compatible and you get along, then you'll have a great flight."

Lucid said she and her Russian crew mates were talking about the differences in their childhood perceptions of the other country.

"(We) were sitting around and talking about what it was like when we were kids, about Russia and America and how we used to have such large differences of opinion," she recalled. "They were talking about how when they were growing up—one grew up in the Ukraine and one grew up in Russia—about how they feared America. I shared with them how it was when I was growing up in Oklahoma, how Russia was the big enemy we feared so much. It dawned on all three of us at once how remarkable it was that here we were, three people who grew up in totally different parts of the world, mortally afraid of each other. Here we were sitting in an outpost in space together, working together and getting along just great. That was a remarkable revelation to the three of us. We never could have planned that."

Lucid was selected as an astronaut in 1978, the first astronaut class to include women. She has flown on five space missions, including her Mir mission, and holds pilot ratings in commercial, instrument and multi-engine aircraft.



Lucid



JSC Photo S97-06614 by Steve Candler

Mona White, who celebrated her 30th anniversary as a registered nurse at the JSC Clinic this year, prepares to give one of her renowned "painless" injections.

Mona White reflects on 30 years of JSC nursing

Ramona "Mona" White says occupational health care has changed much since she began working in the Kelsey-Seybold operated JSC Clinic 30 years ago, but there are two constants:

"You meet a lot of nice people out here," she explained. "And it doesn't get boring."

When White began her rounds at JSC in March 1967, the clinic was open all the time to support employees who were working against the clock to put humans on the Moon. "When I came here we were open 24 hours, seven days a week. We rotated shifts every week. I was used to it, it didn't bother me. I've always like the night shift."

The larger change has been in the type of care provided to the center's workers, which has migrated from treating illness to emphasizing wellness.

"Before, we didn't try to prevent anything," White says. "We took care of what you did. Now, it's up to the individual to do more to take care of themselves as far a diet and exercise. The health care system alone has changed so much. I think it is better if you learn to take care of yourself better."

White says she also remembers when nurses visited astronaut

training facilities and randomly stopped people wearing Primary Contact badges. After inquiring about their general state of health, she would then accost them with a thermometer to make certain they weren't "sick." A normal temperature meant go back to work. An elevated one meant a trip to the doctor and a pulled PC badge.

White has an "intimate knowledge of the inner workings" of many employees, including astronauts, because of her work as the primary "procto" nurse. Proctosigmoidoscopy examinations involve the use of a flexible tube with a charge-coupled device to explore the human colon in the search for disease and cancer. She even "co-starred" in a film on the subject for an astronaut Christmas party.

Her ability to give "painless" shots for allergies and travel is legendary, according to her coworkers, and many people ask for her by name. "A lot has to do with technique," she says. "I've done it so long, I do it my own way."

White is past president of the Houston chapter of the Texas State Occupational Nurses Association, and currently is director of awards, benevolence and correspondence, an elected post on the association's board.

Flight Activities team hangs STS-84 plaque

The Flight Activities Officer team earned the honor of hanging the STS-84 plaque in Mission Control following the conclusion of the successful *Atlantis*-Mir docking flight.

Lead Timeliner Mike Scheib hung the plaque on behalf of Lead Flight Activities Officer Greg Smith, and the rest of the team.

Lead Flight Director Phil Engelauf said the entire team, especially Smith and Scheib, worked long hours with little time off to deal with many late manifest changes and uncertainties during the flight, including whether there would be five or six days of docked operations and if an oxygen generation unit would be installed during or after docked operations.

Joel Montalbano, who served a dual role as Lead Russian Interface Officer and Flight Design Manager for STS-84, also earned accolades for his coordination of all preflight trajectory and performance issues.

"This was the most smoothly-executed flight I can remember, and that was due to the hard work everyone put into it preflight," Engelauf said.



Scheib



Smith

BBC seeks to interview Welsh space workers

JSC employees and contractors of Welsh ancestry are being sought by the British Broadcasting Co. for an upcoming television special.

The intent of the program is to present to BBC viewers in Wales a documentary showing countrymen and their descendants who contribute to the U.S. space program.

Video interviews would be conducted on-site during the film crew's visit to JSC about Aug. 7-8. Anyone in the JSC community who is of Welsh descent and is willing to participate in the program should contact the Public Affairs Offices' John Lawrence at x38630.

People on the Move

Human Resources reports the following personnel changes as of May 23:

Temporaries

Joan Kronenberger joins the International Space Station Program as a secretary.

Reassignments

Leslie Keener moves from the Office of the Chief Financial Officer to the Business Management Directorate as a program analyst.

Betty McNeely moves from the Office of the Associate Director to the Business Management Directorate as an administrative assistant.

William Readdy moves from the Astronaut Office to the Space Shuttle Program as an aerospace engineer.

Michael Odaka moves from the Space Shuttle Program to the International Space Station Program as an aerospace engineer.

Sharon Castle moves from the Space Shuttle Program to the Phase 1 Program as an aerospace engineer.

Promotions

Betty McNeely was promoted to administrative assistant in the Business Management Directorate.

John Russo was promoted to Program Analyst in the Business Management Directorate.

Christi Garcia was promoted to secretary (office automation) in the Mission Operations Directorate.

Michael Brieden was promoted to aerospace engineer in the Engineering Directorate.

Resignations

Alan Bachik and Tabitha Haigwood of the Mission Operations Directorate.

Retirements

Marilyn Dotson, Human Resources Office, 33 years; Richard Burghduff, Engineering Directorate, 33 years; Donald Donohoe, Engineering Directorate, 35 years.

AFGE 2284 union elects new officers

The American Federation of Government Employees Local 2284 union, which represents most JSC non-supervisory civil service employees, recently selected new officers for two-year terms.

Mary McLain of the Information Services Directorate will serve her fifth term as president.

Bridget Broussard-Guidry of the Office of the Chief Financial Officer's Financial Management Division will serve as executive vice president.

John Zieglschmid of Space and Life Sciences' Medical Sciences Division will serve as first vice president. Harvey Kelly of Engineering's

Manufacturing, Materials and Process Technology Division will be assistant vice president.

Other officers include Eric McMichael, chief steward; Linda Salinas, secretary; JoAnn Birchett, treasurer; Ledetria Beaudoin, women's coordinator; and Earnesto Romero, sergeant at arms.

Dates & Data

June 8

Space symposium: NASA and the International Academy of Astronautics will host the 12th Man in Space Symposium June 8-13 in Washington, D.C. Topics include countermeasures, biology, environmental and human factors, life support and space walking and physiology. For more information, visit the symposium's web site at: <http://cass.jsc.nasa.gov/12misf.html>

June 10

Aero club meets: The Bay Area Aero Club will meet at 7 p.m. June 10 at the Houston Gulf Airport clubhouse at 2750 FM 1266 in League City. For more information call Larry Hendrickson at x32050.

June 11

MAES meets: The Society of Mexican American Engineers and

Scientists will meet at 11:30 a.m. June 11 in the Bldg. 13, Rm. 156. For details call G.D. Valle at x38835.

PSI meets: The Clear Lake/NASA Chapter of Professional Secretaries International will meet at 5:30 p.m. June 11 at the Holiday Inn, NASA Road 1. Dinner costs \$15. For details call Elaine Kemp at x30556.

Astronomy seminar: The JSC Astronomy Seminar will meet at noon June 11 in Bldg. 31, Rm. 129. An open discussion meeting is planned. For more information, contact Al Jackson at x35037.

Communicators meet: The Clear Lake Communicators will meet at 11:30 a.m. June 11 at the Lockheed Martin, 555 Forge River Road. For more information, contact Richard Lehman at 538-1854.

Spaceteam Toastmasters meet: The Spaceteam Toastmasters will

meet at 11:30 a.m. June 11 at United Space Alliance, 600 Gemini. For details, call Pat Blackwell at 282-4302, or Ben Black at 282-4166.

Spaceland Toastmasters meet: the Spaceland Toastmasters will meet at 7 a.m. June 11 at the House of Prayer Lutheran Church. For more information, call Jeannette Kirinich at x45752.

June 12

SSQ meets: The Houston Clear Lake Chapter of the Society for Software Quality will meet at 6 p.m. June 12 at the Ramada King's Inn on NASA Road 1. David Petri, manager of the Guidance, Navigation, and Control Rapid Development Lab, will discuss "Principles of Rapid Development as Used in the Avionics Development Environment." Dinner costs \$10 for mem-

bers and \$12 for non members. For reservations or details call Renne Peterson at 335-2034.

Airplane club meets: The Radio Control Airplane Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. June 12 at Clear Lake Park Community Bldg. For more information call Bill Langdoc at x35970.

June 13

Astronomers meet: The JSC Astronomical Society will meet at 7:30 p.m. June 13 at the Lunar and Planetary Institute, 3600 Bay Area Blvd. For more information call Chuck Shaw at x35416.

June 18

Toastmasters meet: The Clear Lake Communicators will meet at 11:30 a.m. June 18 at the Lockheed Martin, 555 Forge River Road. For more information, contact Richard Lehman at 538-1854.

Scuba club meets: The Lunarfans will meet at 7:30 p.m. June 18 at the Redfish Restaurant under the Kemah/Seabrook bridge, Seabrook side. For more information call Fred Toole at x33201.

June 19

Directors meet: The Space Family Education board of directors will meet at 11:30 a.m. June 19 in Bldg. 45 Rm. 712D. For more information on this open meeting call Gretchen Thomas at x37664.

Sept. 8

Thermal and Fluids workshop: The Engineering Directorate will host the eighth annual Thermal and Fluid Analysis Workshop from Sept. 8-13 at the University of Houston Clear Lake. For more information call Carlos Ortiz at x38879.